

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 OES-07 ISO-00 PM-05
EB-08 AID-05 SIG-03 CG-00 DOTE-00 DLOS-09 /080 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH/BSKIRKPATRICK:IW
APPROVED BY AF:WCHARROP
AF/EPS:CCUNDIFF (DRAFT)
AF/I:WLEWIS (DRAFT)
OES/OFA:BHALLMAN (DRAFT)
EUR/SOV:RPERITO (DRAFT)
PM/SAS:CCECIL (DRAFT)
EA/K:BPORTER (DRAFT)
EB/ICA/MA (INFO);DOD/ISA:INFO
AID/AFR/SFWA: (INFO)

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R 080226Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY BANJUL
AMEMBASSY BISSAU
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY FREETOWN
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY LOME
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
SECDEF WASHDC 0099
CNO WASHDC 0025
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AMEMBASSY PRAIA POUCH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090967

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, EWWT, MARR, MASS, PARM, PBOR, PLOS, XY

SUBJECT: ABILITY OF WEST AFRICAN COASTAL STATES TO PATROL
OFFSHORE FISHERIES

1. ONE OF THE REQUESTS REGULARLY MADE TO US BY WEST AFRICAN COASTAL STATES RELATES TO THEIR DESIRE TO PATROL OFFSHORE FISHING GROUNDS IN ORDER TO PREVENT POACHING BY NEIGHBORING STATES OR THE DEEP FISHING FLEETS OF OTHER COUNTRIES, NOTABLY THE SOVIET UNION AND SOUTH KOREA. IN GENERAL, THESE REQUESTS ARE FOR THE PURCHASE OF COAST GUARD CUTTERS OF VARIOUS TYPES. FEW OF THESE STATES CAN AFFORD TO BUY AND MAINTAIN SUCH CRAFT.

2. TO ASSIST US IN PREPARING ANSWER TO THESE REQUESTS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR RESPONSES TO THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A) HOW IMPORTANT IS OFFSHORE FISHING TO THE ECONOMY OF THE HOST COUNTRY? IS THE CATCH CONSUMED LOCALLY OR EXPORTED? TO WHAT EXTENT DO FISHERIES QUESTIONS, PARTICULARLY FOREIGN FISHING, HAVE POLITICAL RAMIFICATIONS?

B) WHAT IS THE POTENTIAL FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF OFFSHORE FISHING?

C) HOW DOES THE COUNTRY REGULATE OFFSHORE FISHING?
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THROUGH BILATERAL OR MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS? THROUGH UNILATERAL REGULATIONS? HOW ARE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT MEASURES ENFORCED? IS FOREIGN FISHING PERMITTED AT ALL BY HOST COUNTRY? IF SO, WHAT ARE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH FISHING?

D) IS POACHING BY UNAUTHORIZED VESSELS A SIGNIFICANT FACTOR WHICH REDUCES THE HOST COUNTRY'S CATCH OR INCOME FROM FISHING OR SIGNIFICANTLY HARMS FISH STOCKS?

E) WHAT IS THE NATIONALITY OF THE PRINCIPAL POACHERS AND OF PRINCIPAL NATIONS FISHING WITH HOST GOVERNMENT CONSENT? (INCLUDE POSTS IN THESE COUNTRIES AS INFO ADDRESSEES IN YOUR RESPONSES.)

F) WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE HOST COUNTRY'S CLAIM TO EXCLUSIVE JURISDICTION OF OFFSHORE FISHERIES?

G) WHAT ARE THE POLITICAL CONSEQUENCES OF FISHING VESSEL SEIZURES BY THE HOST COUNTRY?

3. WHAT IS YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE HOST GOVERNMENT'S

PROBABLE REACTION TO A PROPOSAL THAT IT ACT WITH ONE OR
MORE OF ITS NEIGHBORS TO POLICE OFFSHORE FISHING OF THE
SEVERAL STATES INCLUDED?

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